

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) A process for the manufacture of tetraalkylammonium tetrafluoroborate-containing electrolyte compositions, characterized in that said process comprises step (i):

(i) mixing of at least one tetraalkylammonium halide with at least one metal tetrafluoroborate in at least one organic solvent selected from the group consisting of nitrites, dinitriles, alkyl carbonates, alkylene carbonates, and lactones, which is partially or completely miscible with water.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Previously Presented) The process as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the alkyl groups of the at least one tetraalkylammonium halide contain independently from each other from 1 to 10 carbon atoms.

4. (Previously Presented) The process as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the at least one metal tetrafluoroborate is an alkali metal tetrafluoroborate.

5. (Previously Presented) The process as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the at least one tetraalkylammonium halide and the at least one metal tetrafluoroborate are mixed in a molar ratio of from 2:1 to 1:5.

6. (Original) The process as claimed in claim 5, characterized in that the mixing process is carried out at a temperature of from -50 °C to +240 °C.

7. (Previously Presented) The process as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the at least one organic solvent is acetonitrile, 1,2-propylene carbonate or γ -butyrolactone and that 1 to 4 of the alkyl groups of the at least one tetraalkylammonium tetrafluoroborate are ethyl groups.

8. (Previously Presented) The process as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that said process further comprises at least one of the reaction steps (ii) and (iii):

(ii) separation of metal halide,

(iii) drying.

9. (Currently Amended) A composition comprising a tetraalkylammonium tetrafluoroborate-containing electrolyte produced by a process as defined in claim 1, wherein said electrolyte comprises free ions of said tetraalkylammonium, said tetrafluoroborate, said metal, and said halide in said solvent, provided that said metal and halide ions are present in amounts that together represent from 10 ppm to 2% by weight based on the total weight of said free ions.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently Amended) The compositions as claimed in claim ~~40~~ 9, characterized in that said compositions are noncorrosive in electrochemical cells or capacitors.

12. (Currently Amended) An electrochemical cell or capacitor comprising tetraalkylammonium tetrafluoroborate-containing electrolyte compositions ~~produced~~ according to claim ~~4~~ 9.